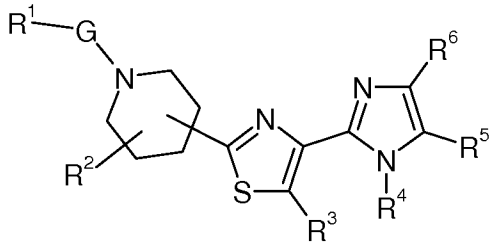
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

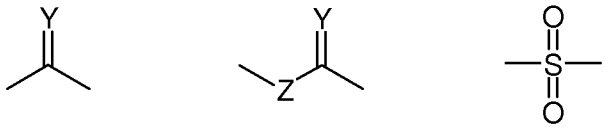
1. (Currently Amended) Compounds of the formula (I):



(I)

in which:

- G represents a bond or a divalent radical chosen from the groups g1, g2 and g3 below:



g1 ; g2 ; g3 ;

- R^1 is chosen from hydrogen and an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, alkylcarbonyl or alkoxycarbonyl radical;
- R^2 and R^3, which may be identical or different, are chosen, independently of each other, from a hydrogen atom, an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl radical and a radical -NRR';
- R^4, R^5 and R^6, which may be identical or different, are chosen, independently of each other, from a hydrogen atom and an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl radical;
- R and R', which may be identical or different, represent, independently of each other, a hydrogen atom or a radical chosen from alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl; or together form, with the nitrogen atom that

bears them, a heterocycle, or together form the double bond of an alken-1-yl radical;

- Y represents an oxygen or sulfur atom; and
- Z represents -NH- or an oxygen atom;

~~the possible~~or a geometrical ~~and/~~or optical ~~isomers~~isomer, ~~epimers~~epimer, ~~and various tautomeric forms, and possible oxidized forms, especially~~tautomer, amine ~~oxides~~oxide, ~~thereof, the solvates~~solvate, ~~and the hydrates~~hydrate, ~~of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible~~ pharmaceutically acceptable ~~salts~~salt ~~thereof~~ with an acid or a base, or ~~the~~ pharmaceutically acceptable ~~prodrugs~~prodrug ~~of these compounds~~thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which the radical R^2 represents hydrogen~~, the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and possible oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, the solvates and the hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

.

3. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which the radical R^3 represents hydrogen~~,~~

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and possible oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, the solvates and the hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which the radicals R^4 and R^5, independently of each other, represent an alkyl radical,

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and optional oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, and the solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

.

5. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which the radical R^6 represents an aryl or heteroaryl radical~~,~~

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and optional oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, and the solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

6. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which in which the thiazolyl radical is branched in position 3 or in position 4 of the piperidine nucleus,

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and optional oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, and the solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer,

epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which the thiazolyl radical is branched in position 4 of the piperidine nucleus,

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and optional oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, and the solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

8. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which G represents the radical g1,

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and optional oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, and the solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which G represents the radical g1 and Y represents an oxygen atom,

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and optional oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, and the solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or~~

~~the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which the radicals R^2 and R^3 each represent a hydrogen atom, the radicals R^4 and R^5 represent, independently of each other, an alkyl radical, the radical R^6 represents an aryl or heteroaryl radical, the thiazolyl radical is branched in position 4 of the piperidine nucleus, and G represents the radical g1 in which Y represents an oxygen atom,

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and optional oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, and the solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof

11. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which R^1 represents an aryl radical, especially phenyl, substituted by one or more aryl and/or alkyl radicals

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and optional oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, and the solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which R^1 represents a biphenyl radical, optionally substituted by one or more alkyl radicals, preferably methyl, ethyl or

propyl, and/or with a perhaloalkyl or perhaloalkoxy radical,

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and optional oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, and the solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which G represents the radical g1, with Y representing an oxygen atom, R^1 represents a biphenyl radical, optionally substituted by one or more alkyl radicals, preferably methyl, ethyl or propyl, and/or a trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy radical,
the other substituents being as defined above,

~~the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, epimers and various tautomeric forms, and optional oxidized forms, especially amine oxides, thereof, and the solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid or a base, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, ~~chosen from~~which is:

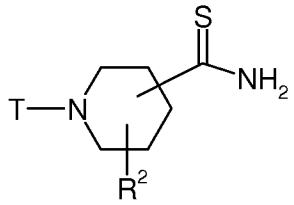
- {4-[4-(1,5-dimethyl-4-phenyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl]piperid-1-yl}(4'-trifluoromethylbiphenyl-2-yl)methanone;
- {4-[4-(1-ethyl-5-methyl-4-phenyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl]piperid-1-yl}(4'-trifluoromethylbiphenyl-2-yl)methanone;
- {3-[4-(1-ethyl-5-methyl-4-phenyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl]piperid-1-yl}(4'-trifluoromethylbiphenyl-2-yl)methanone;

- {4-[4-(1-ethyl-5-methyl-4-phenyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl]piperid-1-yl}(6-methyl-4'-trifluoromethoxybiphenyl-2-yl)methanone;
- {4-[4-(1-ethyl-5-methyl-4-(pyrid-3-yl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl]piperid-1-yl}(4'-trifluoromethylbiphenyl-2-yl)methanone;
- {4-[4-(1-ethyl-5-methyl-4-(pyrid-2-yl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl]piperid-1-yl}(4'-trifluoromethylbiphenyl-2-yl)methanone; ~~and~~
- {4-[4-(1-ethyl-5-methyl-4-(pyrid-2-yl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl]piperid-1-yl}(6-methyl-4'-trifluoromethoxybiphenyl-2-yl)methanone;

~~the optical isomers thereof, oxidized forms, solvates and hydrates of these compounds;~~

~~and also the possible pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof with an acid, or the pharmaceutically acceptable prodrugs of these compounds~~ or a geometrical or optical isomer, epimer, tautomer, amine oxide solvate, hydrate, pharmaceutically acceptable salt with an acid or a base, or pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) A process~~Process~~ for the preparation of a compound according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~comprising reacting a compound of the formula (II):

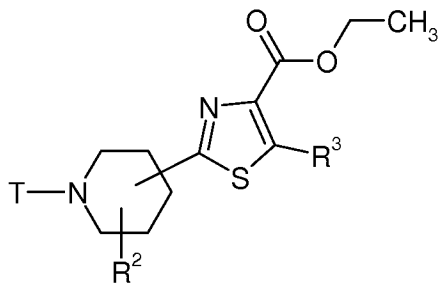


(II)

in which T represents a labile protecting group, ~~and R^2 is as defined in Claim 1,~~

~~is reacted~~ with ethyl R^3-bromopyruvate, in a polar solvent, in the presence of an excess of base, ~~preferably an organic base,~~ at a suitable temperature, for a period ranging from 1 to 40 hours ~~and preferably between 4 and 18 hours~~,

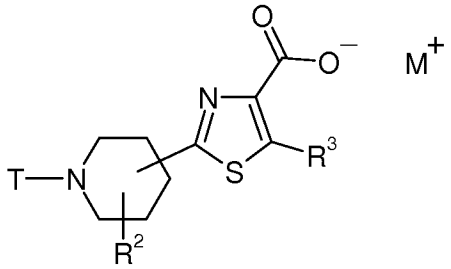
so as to form ~~the~~a thiazolyl ring and ~~give the~~ a compound of the formula (III):



(III),

~~in which T is as defined above, and R^2 and R^3 are as defined in Claim 1,~~

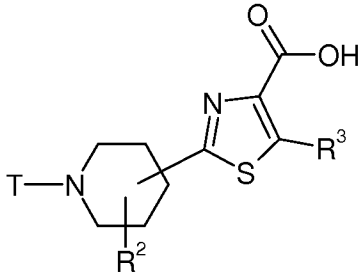
~~which~~saponifying the compound of the formula (III) ~~is then saponified with a base,~~ ~~of~~with an alkali metal or alkaline-earth metal hydroxide ~~type~~base, in polar medium, at room temperature, for a period ~~ranging from~~of 1 to 12 hours, so as to form the salt of the formula (IV):



(IV),

in which ~~T, R^2 and R^3 are as defined above, and~~ M^+ represents the alkali metal or alkaline-earth metal cation derived from the base that is ~~useful~~used for the saponification reaction,

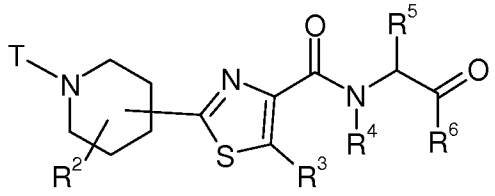
~~which~~hydrolyzing the compound of the formula (IV) ~~is next hydrolysed and then/or esterified~~ to a compound of the formula (V):



(V),

~~in which R^2, R^3 and T are as defined above,~~

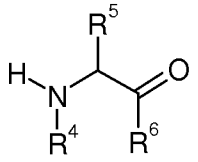
~~which~~converting the compound of the formula (V) ~~is then converted~~ to a corresponding amide of the formula (VI):



(VI),

~~in which R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6 and T are as defined above,~~

via the action of an amine of the formula (VIa):

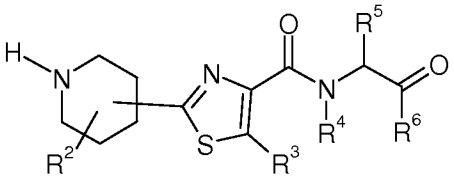


(VIa),

~~in which R^4, R^5 and R^6 are as defined above,~~

in the presence of a base, ~~preferably an organic base,~~ and a catalyst, in a polar aprotic solvent, at room temperature, for ~~a period possibly ranging from~~ 1 to 50 hours,

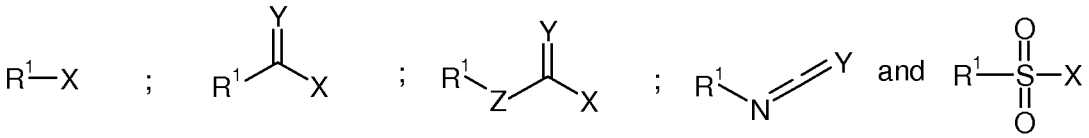
~~the compound of the formula (VI) then being used in a reaction for deprotection~~deprotecting of the amine function of the piperidine ring of VI, via the action of an organic or mineral acid, in dichloromethane or dioxane medium, at room temperature, for ~~a period ranging from~~ a few minutes to several hours, to give the compound of the formula (VII):



(VII),

~~in which R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are as defined above,~~

~~which~~subjecting said compound VIII~~is then subjected~~ to the action of ~~a compound chosen from:~~

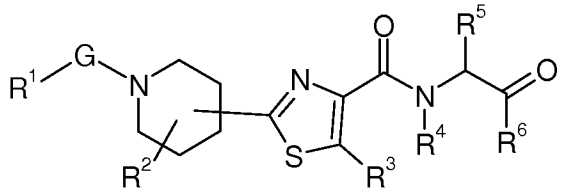


in which X represents a halogen atom~~, preferably chlorine, R^1, Y and Z being as defined in Claim 1~~,

in the presence of a base, ~~preferably an organic base,~~ and a catalyst, in a polar aprotic

solvent, at room temperature, for ~~a period possibly ranging from~~ 1 to 50 hours,

to give the compound of the formula (VIII):



(VIII),

~~in which G, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are as defined above,~~

~~which is finally subjected~~and subjecting VIII to a cyclization reaction ~~(formation of~~to form the imidazole ring~~)~~, in the presence of a cyclizing agent, ~~such as ammonium trifluoroacetate, also~~ acting as a solvent, at a suitable temperature~~, for example in the region of 150°C,~~ for ~~a period generally of between~~ 5 and 15 minutes,

to give the compound of the formula (I) as defined in Claim 1.

16. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical~~Pharmaceutical~~ composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of the formula (I) according to Claim 1, in combination with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a compound of the formula (I) according to Claim 1, for the preparation of a medicament~~A method for the treatment of diabetes-related hypertriglyceridaemia, hypercholesterolaemia, ~~and~~ dyslipidaemia, ~~and also~~or for ~~the~~ prevention ~~and~~or treatment of obesity, comprising administering to a host in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.